

LODDON PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Loddon Primary School

Working together to realise the potential in everyone.

NEWSLETTER NO 15

14th May 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,



House Gems

Congratulations to the following children who have been nominated to receive a Values 'House Gem'.

Jonathan C-K	Falcons	Fire	Quality
Isabella X	Starfish	Air	Quality
Ivan A	Firebird	Fire	Confidence, courage and determination
Joshua k	Bennu	Fire	Friendship and kindness

Value of the month - Confidence



During May we will be focussing on the value of confidence. We will remind ourselves that everyone is great at something so this month sharing an activity which you know your child excels at will give them a boost of self-confidence. Also reminding our children that, whilst we can always try our best, we cannot always expect to be the best at everything can really support their self-confidence. Perhaps you might also like to experience something completely new together as maybe your child has yet to find their own particular area of interest or talent. We'd love to hear about new skills and interests you have been able to try together.

Assembly clips to share together.

- FSU/KS1 clip - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A2RIHM8xfmM>
- KS2 clip - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pdjaxS4ME2A>



Updates to DFE Covid 19 (coronavirus) Guidance

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak> Updated guidance for schools and parents has been shared by the DFE in line with Step 3 of the roadmap. The updates are in relation to face coverings, testing, travel abroad and educational visits. For primary schools there is almost no change to current Covid-19 arrangements.

One exception is that schools are allowed to resume residentials, as of the 17th May, but only where these can include all Covid controls we currently use in school. The next step in any resumption of residential visits at Loddon will be to survey parents and staff so as to understand parental support for future residential visits. Due to the complexities and strict restrictions involved in offering residentials during Covid times we do not plan to consider this again until next academic year at the earliest. For now, we do not have any residentials booked and are waiting until further restrictions are lifted prior to doing so.

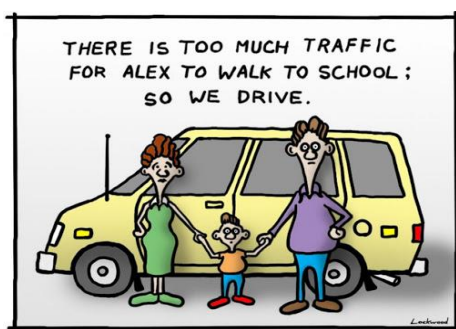
We wait to see whether DFE guidance produced at step 4 will allow for more of a return to normality in schools. The rest of the summer seems likely to continue, as now, with many restrictions continuing in schools in order to reduce the risk of virus transmission.

Government communication to schools - Summer term attendance expectations

School attendance continues to be mandatory for all pupils and the usual rules on school attendance apply. This includes parents' duty to ensure their child regularly attends school, and schools' and local authorities' ability to issue sanctions, including fixed penalty notices, for poor attendance.

We expect schools and local authorities to continue to communicate clear expectations around attendance to families, identify pupils at risk of disengagement and develop plans to re-engage them.

As restrictions begin to lift, we know some families may be looking to take holidays during term time. As usual, parents should plan their holidays around school breaks and avoid seeking permission to take their children out of school on holiday.



Complaints - parents/carers on school run

We are receiving an increasing number of complaints in relation to the behaviour of a small number of parents/carers during the school run. This is in relation to inconsiderate parking, blocking residents drive-ways and most surprising to us verbal abuse to other parents.

Whilst our school has no powers to manage your behaviour or complaints on public roads we ask that all Loddon families understand that when you behave impolitely to others you cause distress and set our pupils a very poor example. We do not allow our pupils to behave in this inconsiderate and rude way and witnessing their trusted adults doing so, around our school site, of course sends them the wrong message.

If you do experience parking/traffic problems whilst on the school run please pass information onto the traffic enforcement department parking.services@wokingham.gov.uk and/or use the most appropriate route to report this to the police using their non-emergency number or road traffic incidents reporting form <https://www.thamesvalley.police.uk/ro/report/rti/rti-b/report-a-road-traffic-incident/>

Finally, we encourage all local families to walk, cycle or scooter to school. The benefits to everyone's physical and mental health of doing so are well established and reducing traffic on our roads is a positive aim for both our personal health and the environment.

<p>This week's book recommendations have been written by Year One children.</p>			
 <p>Hattie Peck</p>	<p>"This book is about a hen called Hattie. She goes on an adventure to find eggs because she's sad she doesn't have an egg of her own. I recommend this book because she goes on adventures and is very brave and kind to her eggs."</p>	 <p>"YOU'RE CALLED WHAT?!"</p>	<p>"This book is really funny because the animals have silly names like "blob fish and ice cream cone worm". They are all real names!</p>
 <p>Slinky Malinki</p>	<p>"I like the book because the cat is naughty. He jumps high and opens the door to the next room. He makes a mess and he opens the last door and has a surprise!"</p>	<p>By Daisy, Starfish Class</p>	
<p>By Ollie, Starfish class</p>		<p>By Chloe, Seahorses class</p>	

If your child reads one of these books as a result of these reviews, we would love it if you could email psa@loddon.wokingham.sch.uk and let us know.

Calling any parents with creative talents!

As subject leader for Art I would love to hear from any parents who have creative talents or skills, that they would be happy to share.

This could be in the form of volunteering to help out in lessons (when restrictions allow) or possibly taking part in an assembly or even giving a demonstration or workshop.

If you (or other family members) have any skills in arts or crafts and would be happy to give some time, please email me and let me know at wendy.henderson@loddon.wokingham.sch.uk

I'm sure we have a wealth of talent out there that could help inspire and support our children. *Many thanks, Mrs Henderson*



Forest school

The last two weeks saw the introduction of Year 2 and Year 3 to the new Forest School Sessions. These sessions included showing the children the boundaries of the Forest School Site, the rules and expectations of the Forest School Leader and allowing the children to explore independently around the area. The children were shown how to read the weather by "cloud gazing", how to find the compass points in the Forest and how to creep up on deer or other Forest animals without making a sound!

The children enjoyed meeting the "Forest School Friends" Dexter, Hattie and Foxy. I was proud to see all the children in their "blue" and "red" outfits and correct footwear. They all looked amazing! The suits are perfect for maintaining a high standard of health and safety during the Sessions. Well done to all the children that attended. Mrs Legg is proud of you and looks forward to the next adventures and challenges. *Mrs Legg, Forest school's teacher*



Join us for our Christian Aid Treasure Hunt in Earley and Lower Earley

This year we are planning a Treasure Hunt around 5 of the churches in Earley and Lower Earley, with a piece of treasure for all who successfully find it. To enter, you will need a map with instructions (sent with this newsletter as a separate document). These are also available here: <http://www.stnicolas.org.uk/event/christian-aid/>

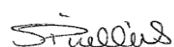
It is designed to be done as a socially-distanced activity, and you can follow the trail at your own speed over 3 days, **Friday-Sunday May 14th-16th**. If you would like to make a donation there will be links for donations on the map.

Christian Aid is a relief and campaigning organisation which champions the struggle for a fairer world, especially for Climate Justice and is currently collecting money to mitigate drought caused by climate change in Kenya, enabling water storage systems to be built by the affected villages.

It helps people of all faiths and none and Christian Aid week is their big fundraising time which this year takes place between 9th-15th May.

Mrs Gunbie on behalf of St Nicolas Church

Yours sincerely



Mrs S Phillips - Headteacher

Diary Events List: Summer 2021

Date	Time	Event
19-May-21	9.15-10.00	PSA Virtual coffee morning - all welcome
19-May-21	18.00-19.00	FGB meeting attendance via invitation of Chair or HT only
26-May-21	9.15-10.00	PSA Virtual coffee morning - all welcome
28-May-21	All day	INSET day school closed for staff training
31 May to 4 June 21	All week	Half term holiday
9-Jun-21	9.15-10.00	PSA Virtual coffee morning - all welcome
7-Jun-21	All week	Pupil Summer term resumes
16-Jun-21	9.15-10.00	PSA Virtual coffee morning - all welcome
21-Jun-21	All week	Y6 Bikeability cycle training
23-Jun-21	9.15-10.00	PSA Virtual coffee morning - all welcome
29-Jun-21	am	Yr R Vision school screening programme
30-Jun-21	9.15-10.00	PSA Virtual coffee morning - all welcome